Remarks

In the Office Action mailed April 22, 2003:

- 1. Claims 1, 3 and 51 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,198,749 (Hui);
- 2. Claims 4-25, 28-31, 33-37, 39-40 and 52-71 were allowed; and
- 3. Claims 41-50 were objected to.

I. The Claims

1. Claims 1, 3, 41-45, 47-50, 51, 129-134

Claims 1 and 51 have been amended to incorporate the subject matter of objected-to claim 46, which has been cancelled. Other claims depending from claim 1 have been amended accordingly. Claims 129-134 are new.

2. Claims 4-15, 52-53, 54, 123-128

Claims 4-15, 52-53 and 54 were not amended. Claims 123-128 are new.

3. Claims 16-22, 55-56, 57

Claims 16-22, 55-56 and 57 were not amended.

4. Claims 23-25, 58-60, 61

Claims 23-25, 58-60 and 61 were not amended.

5. Claims 28-29, 62-67, 68, 119-122

Claims 28-29, 62-67 and 68 were not amended. Claims 119-122 are new.

6. Claims 30-31, 33, 69-70, 71

Claims 30-31, 33, 69-70 and 71 were allowed. Claim 33 was amended for grammar, not for a purpose related to patentability.

7. Claims 34-37, 115-118

Claims 34-37 were allowed. Claim 37 was amended to include a word that was accidentally omitted, not for a purpose related to patentability. Claims 115-118 are new.

8. Claims 39-40, 100-114

Claims 39-40 were allowed. Claim 39 was amended for grammar, not for a purpose related to patentability. New claims 100-114 were added, and depend from claim 39.

9. New Claims 72-81, 82

New claim 72 comprises subject matter from rejected claim 1 and objected-to claim 47, as they stood prior to the current amendments. New claims 73-81 depend from claim 72. New claim 82 corresponds to the method of claim 72.

10. New Claims 83-98, 99

New claim 83 comprises subject matter from rejected claim 1 and objected-to claim 48, as they stood prior to the current amendments. New claims 84-98 depend from claim 83. New claim 99 corresponds to the method of claim 83.

CONCLUSION

No new matter has been added with the preceding amendments. It is submitted that the application is in suitable condition for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested. If prosecution of this application may be facilitated through a telephone interview, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's attorney identified below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: <u>June 13, 2003</u>

By:

42,199

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